B. MAX MEHL
NUMISMATIST
MEHL BUILDING
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

Air Mail

March Second
of my 54th Numismatic Year
1 9 5 4.

Mr. Sid. A. Levenson,
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Mr. Levenson:-

Thank you for your letter of the 25th ult.

I do not have a list of the Futter Collection, but if you will kindly send me a list of the coins you are particularly interested in I shall be glad to quote prices or submit the coins on approval.

The coins in the Futter Collection are all choice pieces and I am sure that I have many which would interest you.

Again many thanks for writing me, and anticipating the pleasure of hearing from you, I am

Yours very cordially,

B. Max Mehl

BMM/MF.

March 9, 1954

Mr. B. Max Mehl
Mehl Building
Fort Worth, Texas

Dear Mr. Mehl:

Thank you for your nice letter of March 2, 1954. I would appreciate it if you would send me, on approval, the following coins from the Futter collection:

Carolina Elephant token (mutilated by gilding)

Georgius III Rex inde et lib 1788 (Tory cent)

Bust type Vermont cents

Bust type New York cents

I would appreciate if you would give me the price of the following:

Lord Baltimore shilling
Oak Tree shilling
Washington half dollar, in copper, with squares and circles on the edge
Somer's Island two pence or three pence

You did not hear from me sooner in view of the fact that your letter was returned for postage.

Sincerely yours,

SIDNEY A.LEVINSON

B. MAX MEHL
NUMISMATIST
MEHL BUILDING
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

Air Mail

October 29th
of my 54th Numismatic Year
1 9 5 4.

Mr. Eric P. Newman,
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:-

Under separate cover by First Class mail I am sending you catalog of my forthcoming Sale and trust it will reach you without delay.

Of course, I realize that with the extent of your wonderful collection there may be very few if any coins of interest to you in this large Sale, but if you do find something of interest to you I most respectfully invite your bids for them with my assurance that your bids will be executed by me just as faithfully as if you had yourself been present at the Sale. Also, if you care to examine any of the coins before bidding, shall be glad to send them to you for inspection.

May I have the pleasure of a word from you at your early convenience ?

With kindest regards,

Cordially yours,

BMM/MF.

B. MAX MEHL
NUMISMATIST
MEHL BUILDING
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

Air Registered

November 8th
of my 54th Numismatic Year
1 9 5 4.

Mr. Eric P. Newman,
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:-

Your welcome and very interesting letter of November 5th received this morning. (This date, November 5th, is a very important one in my life; it happened to be my birthday).

Am delighted to send you for inspection the seven lots you mention and in which you are interested and I hope that they will prove of sufficient interest for you to submit your bids for them.

It is true that I own these coins, but it is also very true that your bids will be executed just as faithfully as if you had yourself been present at the Sale. The coins will be sold regardless, and wherever possible your bids will be reduced to within 5% of the next highest bidder.

Of course, with your long experience in numismatics; I refer to the buying end of it; and your experience with dealers, you know that any Sale can be honest or otherwise depending on the dealer conducting it. If you have confidence in the dealer you are assured of satisfactory results. The fact that I have been "'way down in Texas" for more than fifty years, and I believe you will admit that I have had my fair share of numismatic business of the country, and at my Sales whether I own the coins or not, the bidders have gotten

and get and will always obtain fair and honest service.

I, too, miss Johnson very much; in fact have not been in St. Louis since his passing. I also miss his visits here in Fort Worth. We did quite a lot of business together.

I notice your interest in the Halfpennies of George II. and III. As soon as we are over the rush of this Sale I will see what I may have in these items among my unassorted foreign coins.

Trusting that the coins enclosed herewith will prove of interest to you, and anticipating the pleasure of having you represented at my Sale, and again assuring you of my very best attention and service and endeavor to make your purchases most satisfactory and pleasant to you, I am

Yours very cordially,

BMM/MF.

The lots herewith enclosed are as follows:
2025, 2049, 2066, 2075, 2076, 2082 and 2084.

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

(391...

LLB

SYMBOLS
DL = Day Letter
NL = Night Letter
LT = Int'l Letter Telegram
VLT = Int'l Victory Ltr.

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

SB16 DC222

1954 NOV 29 PM 3. 55

FWB24FW•LLB180 PD=FORT WORTH TEX 29 323PMC=

ERIC P NEWMAN= Cecil

6450 ~~DIESEL~~ AVE STL=

PLEASE ADVISE IF YOU HAVE FORWARDED BIDS HAVE NOT RECEIVED THEM CORDIALLY=

B MAX MEHL=

Cecil-1760

E. P. N.

Fc. 4.3 1/8

MLD

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

1785 INIMICA TYRANNIS
AMERICANA
CONFEDERATIO Small stars
Very fine 155 grains
Six known

Mehl Sale $500.00
11/30/54 okay

2084

B. MAX MEHL
NUMISMATIST
FORT WORTH TEXAS

AUCTION STATEMENT FROM

B. MAX MEHL
NUMISMATIST
FORT WORTH TEXAS

To Mr. Eric P. Newman

6450 Cecil Ave., St. Louis 5 Mo.

Sale 115

Folio 635

December 8th, 1954

LOT No.	No. of PIECES			
2049		Carolina Token	$ 85.00	
2066		Vermonts Res Pair	45.00	
2075		Virginia ½ p	10.50	
2076		Virginia ½ p	8.50	
2084		Confederatio Sm Stars	285.00	
		Postage and registration	1.41	
				$435.41

PR 12/14/54

B. MAX MEHL
NUMISMATIST
MEHL BUILDING
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

December 23rd,
of my 54th Numismatic Year,
1 9 5 4

Air Mail

Mr. Eric P. Newman,
Saint Louis, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:-

I delayed acknowledging your remittance for $435.41 for your auction purchases hoping that I would get an opportunity to look for the George II and George III halfpence, but have not had an opportunity to do so as we are just as busy as ever with the results of the Sale. But I shall not forget you and at the very first opportunity I shall look for these items for you.

Thank you very much for your kind remarks and your fine business and I hope to have the opportunity of serving you often in the future.

With kind regards and every good wish for the Holiday Season, I am

Cordially yours,

B. Max Mehl

BM:M:MFH

B. MAX MEHL
NUMISMATIST
MEHL BUILDING
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

February 21st
of my 55th Numismatic Year
1 9 5 5.

Mr. Eric P. Newman,
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:-

In accordance with your letter of the 15th inst., first of all I hasten to herewith enclose refund check for $285.00 for the coins you returned. With all due respect to your "experts" (?), I differ with them considerably with the explanations about the genuiness of this coin. It is certainly not a cast. It does not take an expert to tell that. However, I never sell a coin if prominent collectors question its authenticity and I shall not offer it again.

When you phoned me and asked me whether this coin was from the Futter Collection, I distinctly told you that it was not; that it was from the Judge Kopp Collection of Wisconsin. But I am always glad to rectify a difference of opinion of this sort and, as mentioned before, am pleased to send you refund check for it.

Thanking you for your interest, I am with kind regards,

Cordially yours,

BMM/MF.

November 5, 1954

Mr. B. Max Mehl
Mehl Building
Fort Worth, Texas

Dear Mr. Mehl:

I appreciate the letter which you sent me with respect to bidding on the items in your forthcoming sale. You offered to send me anything I would like to see and I will appreciate that. I would like to see lots 2025, 2049, 2066, 2075, 2076, 2082 and, if you have no particular objection, 2084.

One of the problems in present day auctions is the fact that the merchandise is owned by the auctioneer and I believe Mr. Futter told me that he sold you his collection. This is a very difficult problem which has resulted in considerable abuse by dealers and I hope you have the answer as to how to induce confidence in the bidders. Others just don't sell the merchandise if they do not get the price they feel it should bring and I am wondering what your position is with respect to this matter.

I haven't seen you in a long time as I do not attend coin conventions but I continue to collect vigorously and at the present time am writing a book. I sincerely miss B.G.Johnson but I believe he educated me sufficiently so that I can go on, numismatically, on my own.

Your friend, Dr. Jacob Marcus of the Hebrew Union College, is coming to St. Louis in a few days to give a lecture on American Jewish History and I have supplied him with a substantial amount of material on that subject. The little South Carolina note with Hebrew letters on it, which I thought would be interesting for his file, ended up in Life Magazine.

I am collecting die varieties of the halfpence of George II and George III prior to 1789 and would appreciate it if you would look through any junk boxes of any assortment of these coppers which you might have to see if you have any.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

November 15, 1954

Mr. B. Max Mehl
Mehl Building
Dallas, Texas

Dear Mr. Mehl:

I very much appreciate your letter of November 8, 1954 and enjoyed looking over the coins you sent me.

I would like to take a picture of one or two which I will do in the next few days and then will return them.

One question I wanted to ask you. On what basis will you accept double eagles in very fine condition to cover the bids in your auction. I would appreciate knowing as it will be helpful to me.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

November 23, 1954

Mr. B. Max Mehl
Mehl Building
Fort Worth, Texas

Dear Mr. Mehl:

I am very sorry if I inconvenienced you with respect to the coins you were kind enough to let me see. I had sent one or two out for photography and just was in a position to send them all back to you today. They are all enclosed herewith.

I will make out my bids and forward them to you within the next couple of days.

The trouble with me is that I do not have enough time to devote to numismatics. I try to carry on a correspondence with a great many people and I have no less than ten different people's coins here in connection with a book I am writing.

I believe I will end up owning a number of the coins in the group I am returning.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

EDISON BROTHERS STORES, Inc

February 15, 1955

Mr. B. Max Mehl
Mehl Building
Fort Worth, Texas

Dear Mr. Mehl:

In your sale of November 30, 1954 you will recall that I paid $285.00 for item No. 2084 being a 1785 Inimica Tyrannis Americana, Crosby Plate VII No. 12. This coin was listed as being part of the collection of Mr. Oliver Eaton Futter of Brooklyn. I telephoned you to ask you among other things whether this coin was genuine and you indicated that it was. I therefore raised my bid to the amount I paid for the piece.

I just returned from New York where I had the coin further examined by Fred Boyd, as well as other competent numismatists, who stated the coin was a cast and not genuine. I was concerned about the coin because it did not ring true and wanted their opinion. Not being satisfied with merely opinions I examined the Brand specimen, the Bushnell specimen and the Newcomer specimen very carefully and I find that they are thinner but more or less within the same weight range as the coin received from you. They are all struck copper and have a clear ring.

I then asked how to determine positively whether the coin I got from you was or was not false without destroying it and was told to have its specific gravity taken. I had this done in St. Louis this week and the data conclusively proves that the coin is not made of copper and is a casting. Its weight in air is 10.03 grams, its weight in water is 8.61 grams, resulting in a specific gravity of 7.06. The specific gravity of copper coins of this type is around 10. This coin, therefore, is composed of tin, zinc, antimony or other light metals having a specific gravity averaging about 7. It is the most deceptive cast I have ever seen and it certainly fooled me and, no doubt, fooled you. It has apparently been plated with copper or had a small amount of copper mixed in the casting mixture. You

Mr. B. Max Mehl
Mehl Building
Fort Worth, Texas

February 15, 1955

will note that there is a slight punch mark in the side, probably done by someone who was suspicious of the coin, but, as you know, that punch mark was in the coin before I acquired it. The coin is the identical coin which you sent me. I have a picture of it. I am enclosing it herewith and would like to have the amount of money which I paid you for it refunded. I am sure that difficulties of this sort do not happen often.

I am as disappointed in finding that this coin is false as you will be when you receive this letter. I have spared no efforts in making a conclusive determination that this coin is not genuine and I would not return it if I had any doubt that I was not entirely correct.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

Registered
Return Receipt Requested

February 24, 1955

Mr. B. Max Mehl
Mehl Building
Fort Worth, Texas

Dear Mr. Mehl:

Thank you for refunding to me the cost of the Confederatio coin. There are not many dealers who would do so gracefully.

I certainly was not going to return the coin to you until I had specific proof to go on as I have found that those who hold themselves out as experts and are in the coin business have their opinions influenced by personal feelings toward other dealers, by economic motives and by prior opinions they are trying to protect.

I have recently heard about centrifugal casting and other methods of making fake coins employed years ago but no one I have spoken to seems to know enough about it to satisfy me. When a fine casting is made it is not difficult to plate copper on to the coin and to darken it.

As much as I liked Mr. Johnson and admired his fantastic fund of knowledge I knew very well that he was quite human and once having given an opinion on a coin, would not retract even though he knew very well he was wrong. Most of the time he was right so that problem did not come up too often.

I have been doing a great deal of historical research lately and among other things have uncovered a substantial amount of information concerning the Virginia halfpence and have found many different dies. I likewise have found the authority for the James II Plantation token whichwill be published in the Numismatist soon.

I was just asked to give some details about the first convention of Central States Numismatic Society in Burlington, Iowa

February 24, 1955

and I am going to tell them about your interesting talk with the enormous illustrations which you used. That was the one and only numismatic convention I have ever attended.

Thank you, again, for understanding the fairness of my position.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

K. L. NICHOLS, *President*
GENE NICHOLS, *Vice President*
M. L. JUSTUS, *Secretary*
A. KOSOFF, *Treasurer*

B. MAX MEHL CO.
NUMISMATISTS

COSTA MESA, CALIF.
Reply To:
P. O. Box 750
Costa Mesa, Calif.
Refer To:

June 26, 1959

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Numismatic Education Society
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

Mr. Kosoff has sent your want list of books to us, and I can only say that we did have some of them but they have been disposed of through our Numismatist and Scrapbook advertisements.

If you would like to send us a more complete list of the items you need, we shall be happy to check our library.

Hoping that we may hear from you in the near future, I am

Sincerely,

B. MAX MEHL CO.

K. L. Nichols

K. L. Nichols
President

KLN:nk

July 1, 1959

B. Max Mehl Co.
Post Office Box 750
Costa Mesa, California

Gentlemen:

Thank you for your letter of June 26, 1959 with respect to the books. Needless to say, I am sorry that I did not have the opportunity of obtaining any of them before they were publicly offered.

Do you happen to have any Banknote Reporters or Counterfeit Detectors?

The most important thing is that I would appreciate a list of what you do have before you publish it. If you could send me any kind of a list it would be most helpful.

Cordially yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

K. L. NICHOLS, *President*
GENE NICHOLS, *Vice President*
M. L. JUSTUS, *Secretary*
A. KOSOFF, *Treasurer*

B. MAX MEHL CO.
NUMISMATISTS

July 13, 1959

COSTA MESA, CALIF.

Reply To:
P. O. Box 750
Costa Mesa, Calif.
Refer To:

Mr. Eric P. Newman
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis 2, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

We are now preparing a list of the Numismatic books we have for sale, and shall be glad to send you a copy before it is made available to the public.

You inquired about Banknote Reporters or Counterfeit detectors. We do have a book by William H. Dillistin, Numismatic Notes and Monographs #114, Bank Note Reporters and Counterfeit Detectors 1826-1866. Please let us know if you would be interested in this book.

Sincerely,

B. MAX MEHL CO.

K. L. Nichols

K. L. Nichols
President

KLN:nk

July 15, 1959

B. Max Mehl Co.
Costa Mesa, California

Gentlemen:

Thank you for your letter of July 13, 1959. I will very much appreciate receiving your list before it is made public so that I can add to my library. I will look forward to receiving the same.

The Dillistin monograph I already have and it is the Bank Note Reporters mentioned in the monograph that I am interested in.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

ENN/atb

We are sending this list to you 10 days prior to the books being offered publicly. Therefore, if there any items that interest you, please let us know at once.

B. MAX MEHL CO.

July 22, 1959

B. Max Mehl Co.
P.O.Box 750
Costa Mesa, California

Gentlemen:

Thank you for the list of numismatic literature which you were kind enough to send to Mr. Newman. Unfortunately, the list arrived just after Mr. Newman left for his vacation and I am unable to get it to him before the public sale.

Very truly yours,

Ann Barrett,
Secretary to Mr. Newman

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

K. L. NICHOLS, *President*
GENE NICHOLS, *Vice President*
M. L. JUSTUS, *Secretary*
A. KOSOFF, *Treasurer*

B. MAX MEHL CO.
NUMISMATISTS

July 31, 1959

COSTA MESA, CALIF.

Reply To:
P. O. Box 750
Costa Mesa, Calif.
Refer To:

Mrs. Ann Barrett
Secretary to Mr. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis 2, Missouri

Dear Mrs. Barrett:

In answer to your letter of the 22nd, if at all possible, please forward the book list to Mr. Newman.

We feel there are books on this list that he would have a real interest in, and may want to secure them before they are sold.

We will try to hold off on the public sale for as long as possible.

Sincerely,

B. MAX MEHL CO.

K. L. Nichols
President

KLN:nk

Don't get back until 8/10 - aB